

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 DPW-01 IO-12 AID-20 SR-02

ORM-03 RSR-01 /133 W

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O R 301105 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 950

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONGEN DANANG

AMCONGEN NHA TRANG

AMCONGEN BIEN HOA

AMCONGEN CAN THO

CINCPAC

CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 SAIGON 7488

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE SITUAOION REPORT FOR

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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THIS REPORT SUMMARIZED ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE
EMBASSY AS OF 1700 APRIL 30

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

PART I - ICCS: CREW TO STRIP HELICOPTER STYMIED AT CRASH SITE OVER PRG DEMAND THEY CERTIFY CHOPPER HAS NOT BEEN MOVED; RECAPITULATION OF LAST WEEK ' S ACTIVITIES

PART II - TPJMC: CIVILIAN DETAINEE RELEASES STALLED AGAIN AFTER HALTING START APRIL 28

PART III - FPJMT/ MIA: NO PROGRESS IN APRIL 30 PLENARY; DRV REFUSES TO NAME MAY DATE FOR FIRST TEAM VISIT TO NVN

PART IV - PRG FIGJT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH VIETNAMESE REPORTERS LESS THAN BRILLIENT SUCCESS

PART V - MR I: FIGHTING AT LOW LEVEL; COMMUNIST GUERILLA ACTIVITY UP IN QUANG NGAI COASTAL LOWLANDS

PART VI - MR 2: NO CHANGE IN LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY

PART VII - MR 3: MILITARY ACTIVITY UP SLIGHTLY; TONG LE CHAN REPEATEDLY SHELLED, ATTACKED ON GROUND; TRAIN WRECKED

PART VIII- FIGHTING AT LOW LEVEL; HUNGARIAN ICCS REP SPOTS ARVN COMBAT- EQUIPPED HELICOPTER WITH ICCS MARKINGS; SENIOR RVNAF OFFICERS PLEASED AT PCQS DENT NIXON' S TOUCH STAND ON ENFORCING PARIS AGREEMENT

PART I: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONTROL AND SUPERVISON (ICCS)

1. SEPTEL SUMMARIZES IN SOME DETAIL ICCS PLENARIES OF APRIL 24, 25, 26 AND 27 MUCH TIME AS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF THE PROJECT FOR THE RETRIEVAL FROM THE QUANG TRI CRASH SITE OF FLYABLE HELICOPTER NO. 115. AIR AMERICA' S REQUIREMENT ON A HELICOPTER ESCORT WHEN FLYING NO. 115 FROM THE SITE WAS FIRST AGREED TO IN WRITING BY THE PRG AT THE APRIL 24 PLENARY. HOWEVE R, ON APRIL 26 CONFIDENTIAL

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PRG REVERSED AND INSISTED THAT THE RETRIEVAL CREWS BE TRUCKED TO THE CRASH SITE AND THAT NO. 115 BE FLOWN OUT UNESCORTED. THE ICCS FINALLY AQUIESCED, IT WAS AGREED THAT A CREW WOULD BE TRUCKED TO THE CRASH SITE WHERE NO. 115 IS TO BE STRIPPED OF TRUCKABLE EQUIPMENT AND THE AIRFRAME ABANDONED.

2. ICCS INVESTIGATING TEAM, FLIGHT 115 SURVIVORS, AND ICCS AIR SERVICE MECHANICS ARRIVED AT CRASH SITE APRIL 29. SURVIVORS ARE SAID TO HAVE AGREED SITE IS SAME AS THEY SAW APRIL 8 (PRIOR TO EXTRICATION FROM CRASH AREA). PRG REPORTEDLY PRESENTED STATEMENTS FOR SIGNATURE BY INVESTIGATORS PRESENT AFFIRMING THIS FACT. CANDEL, BURNED BY HIS SUPERIORS FOR SIGNING SIMILIAR- TYPE STATEMENT ON PREVIOUS TRIP TO SITE, HAS APPARENTLY REFUSED TO SIGN PENDING AUTHORIZATION FROM CANDEL SAIGON. MEANWHILE, EXAMINATION OF NO. 115 AND PROBABLE DISMANTLEMENT OF SAME IS UNDER MORATORIUM ENFORCED BY PRG, UNTIL CANDEL RECEIVES

INSTRUCTIONS. MEMBERS OF PARTY MAY NOW REMAIN ON GROUND OF
SITE AT LEAST TILL WEDNESDAY, DUE TO THIS DELAY.

3. ON APRIL 25 THE ICCS PLENARY HEARD CANDEL REPORT ON CONSULATIONS
WITH BOTH RVN AND PRG AS TO MODALITIES OF ICCS FLIG
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O R 301105 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 951
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COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT

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HAS REPLIED TO AN EMBOFF' S QUESTION WHETHER OR NOT HE HAD STOPPED
IN MOSOW ENROUTE THAT HE HAD ONLY STOPPED THERE OVERNIGHT, BUT
THAT HE HAD SPENT SEVERAL DAYS IN HANOI. MWASILIEWSKI ADDED THAT
HE HAD NOT RPT NOT STOPPED IN PEKING.

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PART II: TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (TPJMC)

1. CIVILIAN PRISONER RELEASE MATTERS HAVE DOMINATED TPJMC EFFORTS IN RECENT DAYS. INITIAL AGREEMENT TO BEGIN A PHASED SCHEDULE OF RELEASES APRIL 27 WAS REPORTED SAIGON 7275. THE APRIL 27 RELEASES WERE POSTPONED BECAUSE THE ICCS WAS UNWILLING TO DESPATCH OBSERVERS, DUE TO PRG RESTRICTIONS ON THE FLIGHT PATHS OF ICCS AIRCRAFT WHICH ACCORDING TO THE ICCS, COULD NOT BE ADHERED TO BECAUSE OF WEATHER CONDITIONS PREVAILING AT THE TIME.

2. ON SATURDAY, APRIL 28, THE RVN RELEASED 100 VC DETAINEES -- ALL LOW-LEVEL CADRE -- AND IN RETURN RECEIVED 63 PERSONS (15 ARVN DESERTERS, THE REST NON-GVN CIVILIANS) RELEASED BY THE PRG. ALL RELEASES TOOK PLACE AT LOC NINH, MR-3.

3. THE PLANNED APRIL 29 RELEASES WERE CANCELLED BY AGREEMENT. THE SCHEDULED APRIL 30 RELEASE OF 400 VC AT LOC NINH FAILED TO TAKE PLACE. ACCORDING TO AN RVN SOURCE, THE ICCS DELEGATION TO SUPERVISE THE RELEASE ASKED FOR A WRITTEN GUARANTEE OF SAFETY FROM BOTH RVN AND PRG, AND REFUSED TO ACCOMPANY WHEN THE PRG FAILED TO PROVIDE THE GUARANTEE. SEE PART V PARA 6 FOR REPORT OF RELEASE APRIL 30 OF 280 PRISONERS HELD BY THE VC IN QUANG TRI. NO INFO AS OF 1800 ON PLANNED RELEASE OF 294 IN BINH DING. SEE PART I, PARA 8 PART VIII PARE 3 INFORMATION FROM MR'S 2 AND 4 WHICH INDICATES THAT RELEASES SCHEDULED THERE MAY ALSO BE RUNNING INTO PROBLEMS

4. ALSO SEE SAIGON 7415 APRIL 28 (NOTAL) FOR REPORT FOF APRIL 27 PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN SAIGON BY RVN DEL CHIEF LTGEN THUAN, A FIRST FOR THE GVN JPJMC; AND SAIGON 7421, APRIL 28, (NOTAL), FOR ACCOUNT OF TPJMC AND OTHER MATTERS AS DISCUSSED BY LTGEN THUAN WITH EMBOFFS APRIL 28.

PART III: FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM (MISSING IN ACTION)
(FPJMT/ MIA)

APRIL 30 FPJMT/ MIA SESSION WAS UNPRODUCTIVE. DRV DELEGATION STATED THAT FPJMT/ MIA VISIT TO GRAVES OF U. S. DIED IN CAPTIVITY COULD NOT TAKE PLACE THIS WEEK DUE TO MAY DAY AND CAPTURE OF DIEN BIEN PHU (MAY 7) CELEBRATIONS. NO DATE FOR THE VISIT WAS ANNOUNCED.
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USDEL ATTEMPTED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO GENERATE DISCUSSION OF APRIL 11 U. S. PROPOSED OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR REPATRIATION OF REMAINS OF THOSE DIED IN CAPTIVITY. DRV SUPPORTED BY PRG TOOK POSITION THAT APRIL 14 DRV PROPOSAL ON GENERAL PROCEDURES SHOULD BE DISCUSSED FIRST. APRIL 14 DRV PROPOSAL WAS NOT DISCUSSED AS GVN DELEGATION WAS NOT PREPARED.

PART IV; VIETNAMESE REPORTERS MEET VIET CONG REPRESENTATIVES

ON APR 28, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE GVN SANCTIONED WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCES BY THE COMMUNIST JMC CONTINGENT, VIETNAMESE

REPORTERS WERE ALLOWED TO VISIT THE VIET CONG COMPOUND. AVAILABLE PRESS REPORTS SUGGEST THAT THE COMMUNISTS' SPOKESMAN, " COLONEL" VO DONG GIANG, WAS SOMETHING LESS THAN IMPRESSIVE IN THIS INITIAL ENCOUNTER. (GIANG IS A POLITICAL, NOT A MILITARY, CADRE.) GIANG, IN BLASTING THE GVN FOR ITS PRESSRESTRICTIONS, CITED THE " EXAMPLE" OF AFP REPORTER WHO, HE ALLEGED, HAD BEEN EXPELLED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE " EXAMPLE" WHO, AS IT TURNED OUT, HAPPENED TO BE SITTING IN THE FRONT ROW AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, ROSE TO REFUTE GIANG' S ALLEGATIONS.

PART V: MR 1

1. FIGHTING CONTINUED AT A LOW LEVEL OVER THE WEEKEND, WITH A TOTAL OF 63 INCIDENTS FOR THE THREE- DAY PERIOD, INCLUDING FIVE GROUND ATTACKS, 54 ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF' S), AND FOUR OTHERS. THE INTENSITY OF THE COMMUNIST ABF' S INCREASED SLIGHTLY TO A TOTAL OF 1,161 ROUNDS DURING THE PERIOD, AN AVERAGE OF 387 ROUNDS PER DAY. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY ALSO CONTINUED SUBSTANTIAL, WITH AN AVERAGE OF 1,665 ROUNDS PER DAY RESULTS DURING THE PERIOD WERE: FRIENDLY, 23 KIA, 116 WIA AND ONE MIA; ENEMY, 55 KIA.

2. FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 29, TOTAL KIA CASUALTIES WERE ENEMY 141, FRIENDLY 46. THIS COMPARES WITH ENEMY 254 KIA AND FRIENDLY 69 KIA FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 22. INTERESTINGLY, FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRES ROSE FROM A TOTAL OF 17,000 ROUNDS TO 19,000 ROUNDS FOR THE COMPARATIVE WEEKLY PERIODS, WHICH MAY INDICATE THE ARVN' S IMPATIENCE WITH THE CONTINUAL HARASSMENT OF THE L1 ST DIVISION BY ATTACKS BY FIRE AND SMALL GROUND
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PROBES AGAINST THE AREAS WEST AND SOUTHWEST OF HUE.

3. LOCAL COMMUNIST GUERILLA ACTIVITY HAS BEEN ON THE INCREASE IN NORTHEASTERN DUC PHO DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI, BETWEEN ROUTE 1 AND THE COAST. DURING A RECENT OVERFLIGHT OF THIS AREA, THE AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI NOTED NEW HOUSES, ROADS CONNECTING SMALL SETTLEMENTS, AND RICE FIELDS BEING CULTIVATED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, THE COMMANDER OF THE 4 TH REGIMENT, ARVN 2 ND DIVISION, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AREA, TOLD THE AREA DIRECTOR THAT ALL THE FIELDS AND STRUCTURES IN THE COASTAL AREA BEYOND A LINE ABOUT ONE KILOMETER EAST OF NATIONAL ROUTE 1 WERE CONSIDERED VC- CONTROLLED AND " SHOULD BE DESTROYED."

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O R 301105 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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AMCONGEN CAN THO

CINCPAC

CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

COMUSMACHTAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT

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4. POLICE REPORTS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI INDICATE THAT THE VC IN MO DUC DISTRICT SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI HAVE BEEN COLLECTING GVN IDENTIFICATION CARDS FROM THE PEOPLE AND REPLACING THEM WITH PRG- ISSUED IDENTIFICATION CARDS. THE NLF REPORTEDLY HAS ALSO CONDUCTED RECENT ELECTIONS IN FOUR CONFIDENTIAL

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VILLAGES IN MO DUC DISTRICT.

5. GVN AUTHORITIES IN DUC PHO DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI, ARE ARRESTING MANY OF THE PERSONS ACCUSED OF BUYING SMALL QUANTITIES OF FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER SUPPLIES FOR THE VC. THE DISTRICT CHIEF TOLD THE AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI THAT HE RELEASES MOST OF THESE PERSONS AFTER HOLDING THEM 24 HOURS AND GIVING THEM A SHORT INDOCTRINATION COURSE ON WHY THEY SHOULDN'T SUPPLY THE VC. IN HIS OPINION, IF HE WERE TO SEND THEM TO QUANG NGAI FOR PROSECUTION, MOST OF THEM WOULD BE RELEASED BECAUSE THE AMOUNTS INVOLVED ARE SO SMALL.

6. THE PROPOSED RELEASE OF 28 CIVILIANS HELD BY THE VC SCHEDULED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN QUANG TRI ON APRIL 28, FIRST POSTPONED

TO APRIL 29 AND LATER AGAIN, TOOK PLACE APRIL 30. ALL WERE EITHER " NATIONAL POLICE, PROVINCIAL RECON UNIT, OR RD CADRE MEMBERS, REPORTEDLY OF 1968 VIENTAGE. ICCS PLAYED NO OFFICIAL ROLE IN THE RELEASE. ON RETURN, THEY TORE OFF THEIR PRISON GARMENTS. AFTER RELEASE COMPLETED, TWO ARVN ENGINEERS KILLED ACCIDENTALLY BY A RIVER MINE WHEN THEIR BOAT ENGINE FAILED AND THEY DRIFTED ONTO A SANDBANK IN THE THACH HAN RIVER.

PART VI - MR 2

1. MR 2 REGIONAL BRIEFINGS IN HA TRANG REPORTED 32 ENEMY INCIDENTS IN 72- HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800 APR 30. THIS NUMBER APPROXIMATES DAILY AVERAGE OF LAST FEW WEEKS, BUT RESULTING CASUALTIES WERE HIGHER THAN USUAL. TOTALS WERE: ENEMY, 33 KIA AND SEVEN CAPTURED; RVNAF, SEVEN KIA, 62 WIA, AND TWO PF DEPENDENTS KILLED BY VC MINE. NINE ACTIONS TOOK PLACE IN BINH DINH AND SEVEN EACH IN KONTUM AND PHU YEN, WITH REMAINDER SCATTERED THROUGH PLEIKU, LAM DONG, AND THREE SOUTHERN COASTAL PROVINCES.

2. THOUGH GVN CASUALTIES WERE UNUSUALLY HIGH, MOST RESULTED FROM TYPICAL ENEMY ATTACKS BY FIRE AND MINING INCIDENTS. TWO MOST SERIOUS INCIDENTS WERE GROUND ATTACKS ON ARVN COMPANIES NEAR KONTUM CITY. FIRST ATTACK BEGAN NIGHT OF APR 26 AND CONTINUED THROUGH EARLY MORNING APR 27 IN DAK ROCOT AREA EIGHT KMS NW OF CITY. ARVN UNIT REPULSED
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ATTACKERS BUT INCURRED TWO WIA IN SO DOING; ENEMY CASUALTIES UNKNOWN. SECOND ATTACK OCCURRED LATE AFTERNOON APR 29 AGAINST REINFORCED COMPANY OUTPOST SIX KMS SW OF CITY. ENEMY WAS DRIVEN BACK, LEAVING BEHIND FIVE KIA, WHILE ARVN REPORTED LOSSES OF TWO KIA AND 16 WIA.

3. HEAVIEST ENEMY LOSSES DURING PERIOD RESULTED FROM APR 27 VNAF AIRSTRIKE ON AA GUN EMPLACEMENT IN AREA OF MY TAI VILLAGE, PHU MY DISTRICT, BINH DINH. ENEM FIRX# FFNRNYHYEEBNC" VZSOMRMCPAPXGDZ# SUBSEQUENTLY DIRECTED --37 STRIKE ON THEIR POSITION; RESULTS; TEN ENEMY KIA.

4. ACCORDING TO ICCS REGION III HQ IN PLEIKU. ICCS/ SAIGON HAS DECIDED TO WITHDRAW TEAMS FROM COMMUNIST- CONTROLLED ENTRY- POINTS AT DUC CO, BEN HET, AND UNSPECIFIED THIRD LOCATION IN SOME OTHER REGION (SEE PART I) THE REASON IN CASE OF DUC CO IS RASH OF ILLNESSES SUFFERED BY TEAM MEMBERS THERE, COUPLED WITH PRG' S INABILITY OR UNWILLINGNESS TO INSTITUTE MOSQUITO- CONTROL PROGRAM OR TO DIG A WELL AND THUS IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY. (MILITARY ACTION IN NEARBY THANH GIAOPLEI YIT AREA MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN A FACTOR, ALTHOUGH THAT AREA HAS BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET SINCE EARLY APRIL.) ICCS COMPLAINTS WITH RESPECT TO BEN HET WERE NOT SPECIFIED.

5. IN ANY EVENT, PRG REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO PERMIT THE ONE
INDONESIAN NOW AT DUC CO TO BE EVACUATED ABOARD RESUPPLY CHOPPER
APRIL 29. THIS IS THE SAME CAPTAIN REPORTED SERIOUSLY ILL AS OF
APR 18 (SAIGON 6756, APR 19 SITREP), WHO HAD MEANWHILE RECOVERED.
WHAT REASON (IF ANY) PRG GAVE FOR ITS REFUSAL ALLOW

EVACUATION OF THE INDODEL IS NOT KNOWN.

6. WHOLE QUESTION OF ICCS FLIGHTS INTO DUC CO AND BEN HET HAS
BEEN
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USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT

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7. BAN ME THUOT SUB- REGION ICCS TEAM IS FINALLY SCHEDULED TO
VISIT BUON HO DISTRICT, OVERRUN BY ENEMY AT TIME OF CEASEFIRE.
AS PREVIOUSLLY REPORTED, PROVINCE CHIEF HAD UNACCOUNTABLY OMITTED
BUON HO FROM EXCURSION PROGRAM. HOWEVER, CANDEL MAJOR TOOK UP

POLOFF'S SUGGESTION THAT ICCS SIMPLY ASK GVN ELEMENT OF TPJMC TO
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ACCOMPANY THEM TO BUON HO. ANSWER WAS YES, AND TRIP IS TO BE MADE
APR 30. POLOFF CONSIDERS THIS SOMETHING OF A BREAKTHROUGH IN
ICCS RELATIONSHIP WITH GVN, SINCE FORMER HAS NOW TAKEN AN
INITIATIVE AND LATTER HAS RESPONDED. FURTHERMORE,
POLOFF BELIEVES TRIP TO SCENE OF RECENT MAJOR FIGHTING WILL
EDUCATE ICCS AND COULD HAVE FUTURE UTILITY. BMT TEAM HAS
RECEIVED NO NEW INVIESTIGATIVE ASSIGNMENTS FOR THREE WEEKS, AND
EVEN EAST EUROPEANS ARE FED UP WITH INACTIVITY AND SEEM WILLING-
AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT - TO SUPPORT AN INITIATIVE THAT MAKES
THEM FEEL MORE USEFUL.

8. PRG REPS EXPECTED FROM SAIGON APR 29 TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF
ELEMENT OF TPJMC STILL HOPES RELEASE WILL TAKE PLACE ON
SCHEDULE MAY 1. MEANWHILE, PHU YEN SITE QUESTION APPARENTLY
REMAINS UNRESOLVED.

PART VII: MR 3

1. NVA/ VC ACTIVITY IN MR 3 INCREASED SLIGHTLY DURING 72- HOURS
PERIOD ENDING 0800 APRIL 30. THERE WERE 48 NVA/ VC INITIATED
GROUND ATTACKS, AND 13 MINE INCIDENTS. TONG LENA AN RANGER BASE

CAMP RECEIVED 493 ROUNDS OF ASSORTED MORTAR AND ROCKET FIRE;
THERE WERE ALSO TWO GROUND ATTACKS AND THREE INCIDENTS OF LOUD
SPEAKER ATTEMPTS TO PERSUADE THE RANGERS TO SURRENDER THE CAMP.
AT 2030 APRIL 28, CAMP DEFENDERS SIGHTED ONE CONVOY OF FOUR LARGE
VEHICLES MOVING TWO KMS NORTHWEST OF CAMP ON ROUTE 246; TYPE OF
VEHICLES UNKNOWN.

2. APRIL 28 A LOCOMOTIVE RECEIVED 80 PERCENT DAMAGE FROM TWO ROUNDS
OF B-40 ROCKET GRENADE 13 KMS WEST OF LONG KHANH PROVINCE SEAT.
THERE HAVE BEEN THREE MAJOR COMMUNIST INITIATED INCIDENTS AGAINST
THE RAILROAD COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD
IN XUAN LOC DISTRICT, LONG KHANH PROVINCE, WITH THREE CIVILIANS
KILLED AND 11 WOUNDED.

3. GROUND CONTACTS AND ABF WERE REPORTED IN BINH TUY, BINH
DUONG, TAY NINH, BINH LONG, HAU NGHIA, LONG KHANH, BIEN HOA,
AND LONG AN PROVINCES OVER THE WEEKEND. TOTAL CASUALTIES
FROM THESE INCIDENTS WERE 13 FRIENDLY AND 25 WOUNDED, WHICH
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INCLUDES FIVE CIVILIAN GRVN HAMLET OFFICIALS. COMMUNIST LOSSES
WERE THREE KILLED.

4. THE YOUNG POLISH INTERPRETER INITIALLY ASSIGNED TO THE ICCS
BEN CAT TEAM HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO SAIGON. IT IS RUMORED

THAT HIS REMOVAL MAY BE DUE TO HIS FRIENDLINESS TOWARD WESTERNERS, INCLUDING AMERICANS.

5. HUNGARIAN DELEGATES ON THE BEN CAT ICCS TEAM HAVE FOUND A NEW STALLING TACTIC. WHEN AN INVESTIGATION REQUEST IS RECEIVED FROM HIGHER HEADQUARTERS, THEY NOW INSIST ON WRITING A LETTER TO THE TPJMC REQUESTING THAT BOTH PARTIES JOIN THE INVESTIGATION, THUS INSURING A DELAY OF SEVERAL DAYS. ACCORDING TO A CANADIAN SOURCE, THIS PLOY WAS FIRST USED APRIL 26 ON THE BEN CAT TEAM'S FIRST INVESTIGATION IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE, OF AN AMBUSH IN TRANG BOM VILLAGE.

PART VIII MR 4

1. LIGHT AND SCATTERED MILITARY ACTIVITY OCCURRED APRIL 27 THROUGHOUT MR IV. ARVN REPORTED 29 ENEMY INITIATED INCIDENTS. ARVN SPOKESMAN REPORTED 23 VC/ NVA DEAD AND SIX CAPTURED. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE 23 KIA, 76 WIA AND THREE MISSING.

2. CASUALTIES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 22-28 TOTALED 142 RVNAF DEAD, 643 WIA, AND 41 MISSING. VC/ NVA LOSES: 257 KIA AND SEVEN CAPTURED. RVNAF KILLED SLIGHTLY EXCEEDED THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS WEEK, BUT VC/ NVA CASUALTIES WERE JUST ABOUT HALF OF THOSE OF APRIL 15-21, AND ARE THE LOWEST REPORTED IN FOUR WEEKS.

3. POLOFF SOC TRANG REPORTS THAT FOUR RVNAF PRISONERS HELD BY THE VC WERE SCHEDULED TO BE RELEASED APRIL 30 AT 4 P. MM. ACCORDING TO THE ICCS REGION VII (CAN THO) CANADIAN DELEGATE, THE GVN ALSO PLANNED TO RELEASE 52 CIVILIAN DETAINEES IN CA MAU. THE RELEASE MAY NOT OCCUR AS THE GVN HAS HAD SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THE SITE. ACCORDING TO SOC TRANG SOURCES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES FEEL RELEASE OF CIVIL DETAINEES IN THE BA XUYEN AREA MAY BE USED BY THE PRG AS PROOF OF ITS CLAIM TO TERRITORIAL CONTROL. THE ICCS IS TO OVERSEE BOTH EVENTS WHEN AND IF REPORTEDLY THEY TAKE PLACE.

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4. THE REGION VII (MY THO) HUNGARIAN ICCS DELEGATE HAS ALERTED HIS SUB- REGIONAL TEAM SITES THAT AN ARVN HELICOPTER WITH ICCS MARKINGS WAS OBSERVED IN VI THANH, CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE. HE REPORTEDLY HAS PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE OFFENDING CHOPPER. THE HUNGARIAN DELEGATE REQUESTED THAT HE BE ALERTED OF SIMILAR ABUSES OF THE ICCS STANDARD. WE ASSUME THE HUNGARIANS ARE PREPARING A DOSSIER ON THE SUBJECT.

5. THE KIEN BINH DISTRICT CHIEF IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE HAS UNWELCOME VISITORS: 2 VC/ NVA BATTALIONS. THE TWO UNITS, THE MOSTLY VC 207 B BATTALION AND THE LARGELY NVA 207 A BATTALION, WERE RECENTLY FORMED FROM THE OLD U MINH 10 BATTALION. THE TWO UNITS MOVED INTO NORTHERN KIEN BINH DISTRICT FROM CHUONG THIEN AFTER THE CEASEFIRE, AND ARE WAITING TO RECEIVE NVA INFILTRATORS MOVING ALONG ROUTE I- C FROM CAMBODIA TO CHUONG

THIEN. MEANWHILE THE TWO BATTALIONS HAVE RESTED, RETRAINED,
AND DUG IN. THE KIEN BINH DISTRICT CHIEF FEARS THAT IN
ANOTHER MONTH THE COMMUNIST WILL BE SO WELL DUG IN A
REGIMENTAL- SIZED FORCE WILL BE NECESSARY TO UPROOT THEM.

6. SENIOR RVNAF OFFICERS HAVE EXPRESS THEIR PLEASURE WITH
PRESIDENT NIXON' S SUSPENSION OF AID TALKS WITH THE DRV AND
THE DEMINING OF NORTH VIETNAMESE WATERS, ADDING THAT THESE
MOVES ARE REQUIRED TO REMIND THE DRV THAT THE UNITED STATES IS
COMMITTED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. ONE
GENERAL OFFICER SPECULATED, HOWEVER, THAT THESE MOVES MAY NOT BE
SUFFICIENT TO BRING A CHANGE IN DRV POLICY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 07 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON07488
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730460/abqcehpy.tel
Line Count: 555
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 11
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <01-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980203
Subject: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE SITUATION REPORT FOR
TAGS: MILI, PINS, PINT, VS, MILI, PINT
To: STATE INFO BANGKOK
BUDAPEST
JAKARTA
MANILA
OTTAWA
PHNOM PENH
JEC PARIS

VIENTIANE
WARSAW
AMCONGEN DANANG
AMCONGEN NHA TRANG
AMCONGEN BIEN HOA
AMCONGEN CAN THO
CINCPAC
CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
FPJMT

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005